

Boskamp, E.

S/N: 10/063,550

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed October 3, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 17-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Murakami et al. (USP 5,384,536). The Examiner next rejected claims 3, 9, 10, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 3103(a) as being unpatentable over Murakami et al. and further in view of Gadzinski (US 2001/0051766 A1). Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability for claims 5, 7, and 13.

Regarding the rejection of claim 1, Applicant has incorporated the subject matter of claim 5 into claim 1. The Examiner had indicated the allowability of claim 5 and, therefore, Applicant believes that claim 1, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Based on the chain of dependency, Applicant believes that claims 2-4 and 6 are also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claim 7, the Examiner indicated the allowability of claim 7 and, as such, Applicant has amended claim 7 to be independent including all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicant believes claim 7 also to be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Murakami et al. Responsive thereto, Applicant has amended claim 8 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 9. While the Examiner rejected claim 9 as being anticipated by Murakami et al., Applicant respectfully believes that claim 8, as amended, defines the present invention over the art of record. Specifically, claim 8 has been amended to further define the RF coil assembly as including an RF modular configured to modulate a UHF carrier frequency with the MR signal. Ultra High Frequency, or UHF, is commonly defined as radio waves between 300 and 3,000 MHz. Murakami et al., however, specifically teaches away from implementation of a UHF carrier frequency. That is, Murakami et al. teaches a 200 kHz low frequency component that is "utilized for wireless transmission". Col. 6, lns. 8-9. In a further embodiment, Murakami et al. teaches 400 and 600 kHz as possible carrier frequencies for wireless transmission of an MR signal. See Col. 7, lns. 8-10. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes that claim 8, as amended, is patentably distinct from that taught and/or suggested by Murakami et al. As such, Applicant believes that claim 8 as well as claims 10-16 to be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner also rejected claims 17-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Murakami et al. Responsive thereto, Applicant has amended claim 17 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 19. Specifically, claim 17 has been amended to include means for acquiring power for components of the MRI system from a B field associated with an RF transmit pulse sequence from a means for exciting nuclei in the subject. In contrast to that which is presently

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claimed, Murakami et al. teaches a rechargeable battery or a non-rechargeable battery to power components of the MRI system. See Col. 6, lns. 36-48. As such, claim 17, as amended, is believed to be patentably distinct from that taught and/or suggested by the art of record.

Regarding the rejection of claims 3, 9, 10, and 16, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner with respect to the art as applied, but in light of claims 3, 9, 10, and 16 depending from what is believed an otherwise allowable claim, Applicant does not believe that additional remarks are necessary and, accordingly, believes that claims 3, 9, 10, and 16 are in condition for allowance based on the chain of dependency.

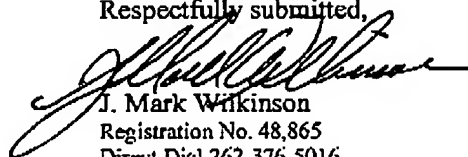
Applicant appreciates and requests entry and consideration of claims 23-28 presented herein to further define the invention. Applicant believes claims 23-27 to be in condition for allowance as being dependent upon an otherwise allowable claim. Claim 28 is also believed to be allowable as incorporating the subject matter of claim 13 which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, Applicant believes that claim 28, which incorporates the subject matter of claims 8, 11, 12, and 13, to be in condition for allowance.

Therefore, in light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-19, and 22-28.

An Amendment Transmittal form is enclosed.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Mark Wilkinson
Registration No. 48,865
Direct Dial 262-376-5016
jmw@zpspatents.com

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P.O. ADDRESS:
Ziolkowski Patent Solutions Group, LLC
14135 North Cedarburg Road
Mequon, WI 53097-1416
262-376-5170